AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.   (Currently Amended)   In a controller for a document production system, a method for associating electronic data files to particular ~~document~~ job components of a ~~document~~ job, comprising:

a)   identifying a document component node for each operation in a document;

b)   assigning a document node as a parent node, the parent node representing at least a portion of a document;

~~a)~~ c)   creating a document component node as a ~~parent~~ sub-node of the parent node, ~~the parent node representing at least a portion of a document~~;

d)   retrieving the capabilities and constraints of printers and finishers;

e)   mapping all generic document forms that result in the creation of the finished document;

~~b)~~ f)   selecting one of a set of document forms to apply to the document; and

~~c)   creating a document component node as a sub-node of the document node; and~~

~~d)~~ g)   associating an electronic data file with the document component node.

2.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the step of selecting one of a set of document forms comprises selecting one from a set of at least seven document forms.

3.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, further comprising applying to the electronic data file rules determined by selection of the document form.

4.   (Original)   The method of claim 3, further comprising classifying the document component into one of a set of document component types that are permitted under the form rules for the selected document form.

5.   (Original)   The method of claim 4, further comprising verifying that the document component conforms to the form rules for the document component type into which the document component has been classified.

6.   (Original)   The method of claim 4, further comprising prompting a user of the controller to input required attributes for the document component type into which the document component has been classified.

7.   (Original   The method of claim 4, further comprising displaying a list of each of the document component nodes created as sub-nodes of the document node together with an indication of the document component type into which the contents of each document component node has been classified.

8.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, further comprising prompting a user to classify the document component as one of a set comprising a variable component and a static component.

9.   (Original)   The method of claim 8, further comprising, in response to classifying the document component as a variable component, prompting the user to designate data address information to enable accessing of variable data during processing of the variable component.

10.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, further comprising allowing a user to classify the document component as one of a set comprising an external component and an internal component.

11.   (Original)   The method of claim 10, further comprising, in response to classifying the document component as an external component, prompting the user for an integrity descriptor for the external component.

12-35.   (Withdrawn)

36.   (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising facilitating two-way communication concerning job status between at least one inventory system and at least one printer system.

37.   (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising facilitating two-way communication concerning job status between at least one inventory system and at least one finisher.